Promotion of jute Goods exports

2239. SHRI M. A. BABY:
SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the feeling of jute growers and jute goods exporters that Government are indifferent to promote jute goods exports despite the rising demand in the world market; and

(b) if so, what measures are being taken by Jute Manufactures Development Council and the trade wings of Indian Embassies to convince the consumers in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Government have taken a number of measures to increase exports of Jute and jute goods including inter-alia, participating in international fairs organising luyers-sellers. meets, commissioning of market studies, liising with importers and end users, serving trade and industry with commercial intelligence and publicity campaigns, funding R and D activities to develop a new range of diversified jute products to suit consumer preferences, linking of DGS&D orders for supply of jute bags with export obligation, External Market Assistance Schemes, Loss Sharing Scheme on participation in global tenders etc.

Plans for improving jute exports

2240. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pelased to state:

(a) what are the plans to improve the export of jute goods as the world market has shown a favourable turn;

(b) whether Government are planning for dialogue with the jute industry; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) Government have taken a number of measures to increase exports of jute and jute goods including, inter-alia, participating in international fairs, organising, buyers '—sellers' meets, commissioning of market studies, liasing with importers and end users, serving trade and industry with commercial intelligence and publicity campaigns, funding R&D activities to develop a new range of diversified jute products to suit consumer preferences, linking of DGS&D orders for supply of jute bags with export obligation, External Market Assistance Scheme, Loss Sharing Scheme on participation in global tenders etc.

Representatives of industry are included in various fora and their views are taken into consideration while formulating the measures for promoting the export of jute goods.

Revised package for sick NTC Mills

2241. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the scheme for modernisation of 79 mills of NTC indicating in what way this is an improvement over the earlier turnaround strategy approved by the Union Cabinet; and

(b) what are the names of the countries which have offered to send tenders and what is the stage of progress made in this matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The Turn Around Strategy for NTC envisaged, inter-alia, modernisation of 55 mills, rationalisation of 79982 officers, staff and workers rendered surplus due to outright closure of 14

chronically sick mills, restructuring of 35 unviable units into 15 viable mills and closure of other uneconomic and unviable activities. The schemes prepared by the Textile Research Associations envisage, inter-alia, modernisation of 79 mills and rationalisation of only 70885 officers, staff and workers due to restructuring of 36 unviable units into 18 viable units and closure of other uneconomic and unviable activities.

(b) Quotations for the supply of machinery have been received from U.K., Germany, Japan, Italy, Russia, Switzerland, etc. The modernisation plan prepared by the Textile Research Associations, has been submitted to the Special Committee, for consultation on NTC matters and would require the approval of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

Production of Jute and Jute Textiles

2242. SHRI KAILASH NARAIN SARANG: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total tonnage in absolute terms not in percentage of Food Grains, Sugar, Cement, Urea and Phosphatic Fertiliser that is to be compulsorily packed in Jute Bags in 1994 under Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) **Act, 1987.**

(b) what was the production of jute textiles in 1986-87 and 1992-93;

(c) what was the production of jute crop in 1986-87 and in 1992-93; and

(d) whether the increase in production of Jute Textiles from 1987 to 1992-93 is in production to the increased packing requirement the above items to be compulsorily packed in Jute Bags; if not, what is the relevance of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) On the basis of expected production of different commodities during the year 1993-94, (July-June), the following quantities of foodgrains, sugar, cement, and urea are required to be compulsorily packed in Jute Bags under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987. Phosphatic Fertiliser is not packed in Jute Bags:—

Foodgrains	—36.5 Million Tonnes
Sugar	—11.5 Million Tonnes
Cement	—35.1 to 37.8 Million Tonnes
Urea	—13.3 Million Tonnes

(b) and (c) *Production of Raw Jute and Jute Textiles:*

Year (July-June)	Total Production of jute textiles ('000 Tonnes)	Of which production of sacking bags and Tarpaulin cloth used for packaging purposes exclusively; ('000 tonnes)	Final Estimates of Raw Jute Crop as released by Union Agriculture Ministry	
			(000 bales) of 180 kgs.)	(000 tonnes)
1986-87 . . .	1359.3	831.3	86.26	15.53
1992-93 . . .	1342.8	807.0	89.88	16.18